

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

March 24, 2004

IN RE:)	
PETITION FOR ARBITRATION OF CELLCO	)	DOCKET NO.
PARTNERSHIP d/b/a VERIZON WIRELESS	)	03-00585
IN RE:)	
PETITION FOR ARBITRATION OF BELL SOUTH)	
MOBILITY LLC ; BELL SOUTH PERSONAL	)	DOCKET NO.
COMMUNICATIONS, LLC; CHATTANOOGA	)	03-00586
MSA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP; COLLECTIVELY)	
d/b/a CINGULAR WIRELESS)	
IN RE:)	
PETITION FOR ARBITRATION SUBMITTED BY	)	DOCKET NO.
AT&T WIRELESS PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T WIRELESS	)	03-00587
IN RE:)	
PETITION FOR ARBITRATION	)	DOCKET NO.
OF T-MOBILE USA, INC	)	03-00588
IN RE:)	
PETITION OF SPRINT SPECTRUM L.P. d/b/a SPRINT	)	DOCKET NO.
PCS FOR ARBITRATION WITH TENNESSEE RURAL	)	03-00589
INDEPENDENT COALITION)	

AMENDED ORDER APPOINTING HEARING OFFICER

These matters came before Chairman Deborah Taylor Tate, Director Pat Miller and Director Ron Jones of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to Docket No. 03-00585, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on December 8, 2003.

Background

On November 6, 2003, Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless; BellSouth Mobility LLC, BellSouth Personal Communications, LLC and Chattanooga MSA Limited Partnership, collectively d/b/a Cingular Wireless, AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T Wireless, and T-Mobile USA, Inc.,

each a Commercial Mobile Radio Service ("CMRS") provider, individually filed a Petition for Arbitration. Sprint Spectrum, L.P. d/b/a Sprint PCS filed its Petition for Arbitration on November 7, 2003. Each petition was assigned a separate docket number upon being filed with the TRA. Each petition requests that the TRA assist in matters relating to the negotiation of an Interconnection and Reciprocal Compensation Agreement between the aforementioned companies and members of the Tennessee Rural Independent Coalition ("ICO").¹ Each petition further explains that although the ICO comprises 21 separate companies, the negotiations have been conducted jointly. As such, the CMRS providers argue that it would be an unnecessary burden on the TRA to file individual petitions with each of the approximately 21 rural carriers.

On November 18, 2003, Verizon Wireless, on behalf of the CMRS providers and the ICOs jointly, filed a motion in Docket No. 03-00585 requesting that the TRA consolidate all of the Petitions for Arbitration filed with the TRA. The parties seek consolidation of Docket Nos. 03-00585, 03-00586, 03-00587, 03-00588 and 03-00589 such that the five petitions for Arbitration filed by Verizon, Sprint, AT&T, T-Mobile and Cingular, be combined into one arbitration proceeding.²

During the December 8, 2003 Authority Conference, Chairman Tate consolidated the individual dockets, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252, to reduce administrative burdens on telecommunications carriers and conserve the resources of the TRA. Because the Verizon Wireless petition was the first of the five petitions to be filed, the remaining four dockets were consolidated with Docket No. 03-00585 for the purposes of resolving all of the arbitrations. Thereafter, the panel assigned to Docket No. 03-00585 voted unanimously to appoint General Counsel or his designee as

¹ The ICO includes the following companies. Ardmore Telephone Company, Inc ; Ben Loman Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc , Bledsoe Telephone Cooperative, CenturyTel of Adamsville, Inc , CenturyTel of Caliborne, Inc , CenturyTel of Ooltewah-Collegedale, Inc., Concord Telephone Exchange, Inc , Crockett Telephone Company, Inc , DeKalb Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Highland Telephone Cooperative, Inc , Humphreys County Telephone Company; Loretto Telephone Company, Inc ; Millington Telephone Company, North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc ; Peoples Telephone Company, Tellico Telephone Company, Tennessee Telephone Company, Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative Corporation, United Telephone Company, West Tennessee Telephone Company, Inc , and Yorkville Telephone Cooperative

² Each of the five CMRS providers submitted a Statement of Support for the Joint Motion to Consolidate.

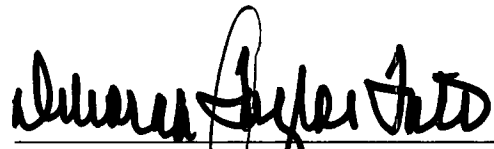
Hearing Officer to determine whether to accept the arbitrations and to otherwise prepare these matters for arbitrations, if necessary.

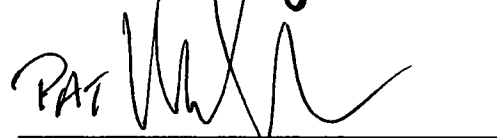
On March 4, 2004, the Authority issued an *Order Accepting Arbitration, Appointing Arbitrators and Appointing Pre-Arbitration Officer*, which incorrectly states the arbitrators have been accepted by the panel when this function was delegated to the Hearing Officer. This Amended Order replaces the Order of March 4, 2003 and reflects the decision of the panel to appoint General Counsel or his designee as Hearing Officer to determine whether to accept the petitions for arbitration and, if necessary, prepare these consolidated matters for arbitration

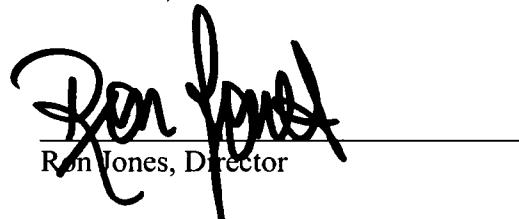
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Because Docket Nos. 03-00585, 03-00586, 03-00587, 03-00588 and 03-00589 are consolidated, Docket Nos. 03-00586, 03-00587, 03-00588 and 03-00589 shall be deemed closed after entry of this Order. The record in Docket Nos. 03-00586, 03-00587, 03-00588 and 03-00589 shall be a part of the record in Docket No. 03-00585 and all future filings shall be entered under Docket No. 03-00585.

2. This Amended Order reflects the unanimous decision of the voting panel to appoint General Counsel or his designee as Hearing Officer to determine whether to accept the petitions for arbitration and, if necessary, prepare these consolidated matters for arbitration.


Deborah Taylor Tate, Chairman


Pat Miller, Director


Ron Jones, Director